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CORRECTION: Changes spelling of middle name to Christoph in 2<sup>nd</sup> graf

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## **Teacher Charged with Molesting Two Students**

An LAUSD high school drama teacher was charged today with sexually molesting two male students 15 years ago, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Peter Christoph Gomez (dob 8/6/67) is charged in case BA421834 with 26 felony counts, including multiple counts of sexual molestation, sodomy of a person under 16 and oral copulation of a person under 16. Prosecutors will ask that his bail be set at \$1.5 million.

Deputy District Attorney Jane Creighton with the Sex Crimes Division said Gomez is scheduled to be arraigned after 2:30 p.m. today at the Foltz Criminal Justice Center, Department 30.

Gomez was a drama coach at Benjamin Franklin High School in Highland Park when the alleged molestations occurred between June 30, 1999, and Sept. 3, 2003. Creighton said he is charged with molesting two male victims who were between the ages of 14 to 18 at the time of the incidents. Both students attended Franklin High School at the time.

The La Habra resident was arrested Feb. 21 by LAPD's Northeast Sexual Assault Detail, which is investigating the case.

If convicted, he faces up to 20 years in state prison.

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## **About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office**

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety. Annually, the <u>Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office</u> prosecutes more than 60,000 felonies and 140,000 misdemeanor crimes.